REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 12-13, 15, 39-40, 42, 53-54, and 56-75 will be pending in this application upon entry of the above amendments. Applicant has elected the claims in Group I for purposes of examination in response to the restriction requirement. Non-elected claims 17-27, 44-52, and 55 have been canceled. Claims 12, 39, 53, 59-60, and 68-69 have been amended. Claims 74 and 75 have been added. The amendments find full support in the original specification, claims, and drawings. No new matter has been added. In view of the above amendments and remarks that follow, reconsideration, reexamination, and an early indication of allowance of the now pending claims 12-13, 15, 39-40, 42, 53-54, and 56-75 are respectfully requested.

The Examiner objects to claims 12, 39, 53, 59, and 68 because the equation $A = USV^T$ is not defined in the recited claims. Applicant submits that the amendment to the claims now overcome this objection. The amendment was made for reasons unrelated to patentability. Withdrawal of the objection is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 12-13, 15, 39-40, 42, 53-54, and 56-73 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blum et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,918,223) in view of Atkins (U.S. Patent No. 5,644,727). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner relies on the disclosure in Col. 6, lines 13-30 of Blum to contend that it discloses the limitation of performing a "singular value decomposition on the matrix A, wherein $A = USV^T$" recited in independent claims 12, 39, and 53. Although Blum discloses computing trajectories over the length

of a sound file, and computing a second trajectory that contains the first derivate of the original trajectory, this is not akin to a singular value decomposition computation. Accordingly, claims 12, 39, and 53 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 13, 15, 40, 42, 54, and 56-73 are also in condition for allowance because they depend on an allowable base claim, and for the additional limitations that they contain.

Claims 74 and 75 are new in this application. Claim 74 includes the limitations of "performing a singular value decomposition on the matrix A, wherein A = USV^T," and "retrieving one or more rows of matrix V^T" which are neither taught nor suggested in the cited references. Accordingly, claim 74 is in condition for allowance.
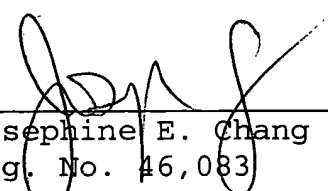
Claim 75 is also in condition for allowance because it depends on allowable claim 74, and for the additional limitations that it contains.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration, reexamination, and an early indication of allowance of the now pending claims 12-13, 15, 39-40, 42, 53-54, 56-75 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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